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WASHINGTON, D.C.
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JANUARY 17, 2001**

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**JOINT DECLARATION
ON THE PROPOSED
U.S.-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

1. On November 16, 2000, President Clinton and Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong agreed to launch negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) between the United States and Singapore.
2. The United States and Singapore conducted two rounds of negotiations for the U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the first from December 4-21 and the second from January 10-January 18, 2001, in Washington D.C. During the week of January 8, 2001, U.S. experts visited Singapore for fact-finding missions.
3. As a result of these efforts, substantial progress has been achieved, and we have a document of consolidated texts reflecting our countries' respective proposals as of January 17, 2001. Much work remains to be done to result in a final Agreement.
4. The United States and Singapore remain committed to achieving a comprehensive FTA that will increase the flow of trade and investment. We share the vision of a closer commercial relationship that reinforces our already strong political ties. We recognize that the U.S.-Singapore FTA is an important initiative that will enhance our mutual interest in a strong ASEAN and East Asia and will further strengthen the partnership across the Pacific.
5. The U.S.-Singapore FTA will contribute to regional and global trade liberalization and strengthen the multilateral trading system. We commit to an FTA that covers substantially all trade and is consistent with our World Trade Organization obligations. The FTA will be fully in line with APEC goals and principles, particularly the Bogor Declaration and the Osaka Action Agenda.
6. We agreed to hold a new round of negotiations in Singapore as soon as possible and, in the

meantime, that our experts should continue discussions of technical issues.

Charlene Barshefsky
United States Trade Representative

George Yeo
Minister for Trade and Industry

For the Government of
The United States of America

For the Government of
Singapore

January 17, 2001